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Statement of the substance of the Interview

On November 9, 2007, Thomas E. Lees, on behalf of the applicants, conducted a telephone interview with Examiner Pham of the USPTO. Thanks to the Examiner once again, for the time and consideration during the telephone interview. No demonstrations were utilized. Additionally, no exhibits were transmitted to the Examiner. An unofficial proposed amendment to claim 1 along with an interview agenda is set out in the request for interview faxed to the Examiner on November 07, 2007. During the interview, the invention described in claim 1 was discussed in general terms, and with regard to the art cited in the office action including Japanese Pat. No. JP 4-317254 to Kaneko, U.S. Pat. No. 6,819,351 to O'Hara et al., and U.S. Pat. No. 5,719,680 to Yoshida et al.

The thrust of the applicants arguments during the interview was that none of the cited references teach or suggest at least a bow profile that comprises an instruction for each column of the image data indicating whether that column should be shifted up, down or not shifted, where the instructions define each shift up or down within a column as a relative offset with respect to an adjacent column position. The thrust of the Examiner's arguments are set out more fully in the office action mailed August 24, 2007. Moreover, the Examiner argued that the phrase "relative offset" in the unofficial proposed amendment to claim 1 was unclear.

The Examiner agreed to briefly review a revision to the unofficial proposed claim amendment to claim 1, which was transmitted to the Examiner on November 09, 2007. The unofficial revised claim amendment clarified that the bow profile comprises an instruction for each column of image data indicating whether that column should be shifted up, down, or not shifted with respect to an adjacent column position. The Examiner telephoned the applicants to inform them that the revised unofficial proposed amendment clarified and addressed the Examiner's concerns over the phrase "relative offset". However, the Examiner further indicated that an updated search would be required.

No other pertinent matters were discussed and no further agreements were reached between the parties. The amendment to claim 1 as set out herein is substantially the same as the revised unofficial amendment of November 09, 2007.